VOLUNTARY
PLANNING

Annual Report 1989 - 90

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Table of Contents

Chairman's Message 1
Welcome Bob Radchuck 4

Board and Sector Reports

APEC 's Economic Overview 6

Board Committee Reports

Voluntary Planning Board 7
Executive Committee 8
Nominating Committee 9
CORE 9

Sector Reports

Agriculture 11
Community Development 11
Construction 11
Energy 12
Environment and Economy 12
Fisheries 13
Forestry 13
Health Care 14
Human Resources 15
Land Resources Coordinating Council 15
Manufacturing 16
Mineral Resources 16
Professional Service Industry 16
Research and Development 16
Special Committee on Free Trade 16
Taxation 16
Tourism 17
Transportation 17

Spin-Off Organizations

The Construction Industry Development Council of of N. S.	20
Arson Prevention Council of N.S.	20
The Economic Developers Association of N.S.	21
Hunting and Fishing Guides of N.S.	23
Ground Search and Rescue Association of N.S.	23
The Clean Nova Scotia Foundation	24

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Hon. Ken Streatch	26
Special thanks to Ann Janega	27
Farewell to Tony Lamport	28
Thanks to (acknowledgements)	28
Voluntary Planning Board Executive	29
Present Staff	30
Outgoing Chairmen	30
Outgoing Board Members	30

Appendix

Recommendations	32
Calendar of Events	40
Publications	42
List of Committees	43
List of Constituent Organizations	45

Chairman's Message

Dear Members:

I am pleased to report that Voluntary Planning's 26th year has been one of its busiest and most demanding.

The renewal process which began with our 25 year celebrations has begun to show more clearly its benefits.

A trimmer, more balanced Board quickly found its capacity for working consensus and the important issues that came before it this year were well aired and thoroughly treated.

I congratulate members for their individual and collective contributions, particularly thanks to those who were new members of Voluntary Planning this year.

The Executive Committee, as well, has confronted substantive issues and found in doing so, the same sort of willingness to work together and find common ground. I extend to them my gratitude on behalf of the organization for their diligence and commitment.

In this year of profound developments in our natural and political environment, global in scale and far reaching in their effect, Voluntary Planning has officially incorporated "sustainable development" into its mandate, as both a value and a mission.

We have always had the well-being of Nova Scotians as our primary objective. We now understand the dimensions of that undertaking in a new and deeper way. As keepers of the health and welfare of our children, we must not squander their inheritance nor compromise its value.

To a greater or lesser extent, we are affected by trends that are global in scale. I urge all sectors and committees in pursuit of their objectives to keep before them an awareness of the impact their recommendations may have not only on future generations but the larger context of world well-being.

Sustainable development presents us with limitations. However, with an attitude of flexibility and creativity we will see within those limitations the considerable opportunities for a new and more stable kind of economic growth as we begin to understand the idea of development itself in a whole new way.

It was in this spirit of rising to the challenge of world events, that Voluntary Planning embarked this year in partnership with the government of Nova Scotia on an important undertaking, one which will have a strong positive impact on the future of the province.

In 1984, with the White Paper, a consensus was reached on economic directions for the future. New environmental concerns, shifting political realities, global competition - these kinds of challenges have forced a re-thinking of that consensus and its approach to economic development.

Important considerations have emerged from the strategy process. The need for wealth creation,and an increase in the value of traded goods and services, are primary.

If we are to build competitiveness and with it entrepreneurship and increased prosperity, we must accept a more business oriented economy, one which can tolerate business creation and failure in a dynamic environment and which is supported by a joint commitment to excellence on the part of government and the private sector.

We must accept the need to play by international rules and excel because of it, making the best of our advantages and recognizing our weaknesses as opportunities to grow and become stronger.

I thank all participants in the economic strategy process for their contribution to the many meetings and as well to the staff of the Policy and Planning Division of the Department of Industry, Trade and Technology who have ably guided and nurtured the process thus far.

The sector committees have always been the engine of vitality for Voluntary Planning, and while for most sectors this past year has involved planning and reflection, some sectors have been part of a more intense self examination process.

In the light of increasing demand for its services and limitations in its ability to provide those services Voluntary Planning has had to establish a realistic set of priorities for the allocation of staff and equipment resources.

The Community Development Sector, Human Resources and LRCC have undergone a review process to increase their efficiency and focus their purpose. A few sectors such as Mineral Resources and the Professional Services Industry have been able to keep their activities to a minimum in order to assist with these conservation measures.

Our brief but productive tenure with the Department of Small Business Development is ending with Voluntary Planning's transfer to the Department of Industry Trade and Technology.

Most business in Nova Scotia is small business, and it has been a distinct advantage to have been located within the new Department created to serve that sector of the economy. However, after a year in close partnership on

the economic strategy with the Policy Division of the Department of Industry Trade and Technology behind us, the value of this opportunity to work closely with the economic policy section of government and to build on a solid history of cooperation is apparent.

Wherever Voluntary Planning is lodged for administrative purposes it will always maintain its healthy, arms length relationship to government.

I wish to express on behalf of all our members sincerest gratitude for the consideration shown to us by the Honourable Ken Streatch, Minister Ann Janega, Deputy Minister and the entire staff of the Department of Small Business Development. Not only did they understand and respect our unusual status within government and the sometimes unique difficulties this creates, but they have taken every opportunity to assist and support us in reaching our objectives. Thank you again for your generosity and support.

I would like to officially welcome our new Vice Chairman, Bob Radchuck: although he is already something of a veteran, having already been extensively involved with the Taxation Sector.

Bob's talents and his commitment are going to be valuable resources for Voluntary Planning.

Congratulations to all Voluntary Planning members for their service to the province, for the many hours spent in meetings and preparing reports.

Thanks to our Executive Director Elizabeth Mills and the staff of Voluntary Planning for an unusually busy and successful year of activities.

As we face a new decade, we can look forward to an increasingly important role for Voluntary Planning.

The need for the wisdom and experience of the private sector and above all the need for consensus in the face of challenging times, guarantees it.

Introducing Mr. Bob Radchuck

VP's New Vice - Chairman

Robert P. Radchuck was born in Stewiacke, is married and has two children. He holds degrees in science, engineering and is a Chartered Accountant. Following graduation he spent nine years with a major firm of chartered accountants at various staff and management levels. In 1973 he became Financial Officer of an international trading company and in 1975 entered the management consulting profession with Thorne Riddel Associates.

He has extensive experience in all phases of professional services to a broad spectrum of business sectors ranging from fishing, construction and manufacturing to universities, government, wholesale and retail.

He is presently managing partner in the Halifax Office of Peat Marwick Thorne.

In the past he has been an active member and participated in a wide variety of community organizations.

Currently, these include The Institute of Chartered Accountants, The Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia and The Halifax Board of Trade. He is also past Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia.

Mr. Radchuck has been an active member of Voluntary Planning serving the Taxation Sector for several years and on May 16, 1989 was appointed Vice Chairman of the Voluntary Planning Board by Order in Council.

Board and Sector Reports

Economic Overview 1989

Placing events in their context is the only way they can be truly understood.

We are grateful to the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council for allowing their retrospective summary of the Nova Scotia economy in 1989 to introduce the Board and Sector Reports.

The Atlantic Economy: Review of 1989, Outlook for 1990

by APEC

After flirting briefly with a rate of growth comparable to the national pace, Nova Scotia's economy slowed in 1989. This was in line with the national trend caused principally by high interest rates, a strong Canadian dollar and government restraint. Serious problems in mining and the fishery have meant even slower growth in Nova Scotia. Investment, principally business and government spending, was the main source of growth in the province in 1989. This is typical of the latter stages of the business cycle, and will slow across Canada.

Employment growth slowed in 1989. Jobs were created at about the national pace with unemployment rates dipping to single digit levels for a good part of the year. The unemployment rate in November, 1989 was 9.9% compared to 10.0% in November, 1988. An average of 8,000 jobs were created over the first 11 months of the year compared to the same period in 1988. Much of this growth was in the service sector, particularly in transportation and communications, wholesale and retail trade and personal service. Most primary sectors, manufacturing and construction saw employment decline.

A respectable rate of job creation and a solid increase in income helped propel retail sales at a pace comparable to the nation as a whole. Consumption slowed in the second half as demand for durables fell off sharply. New car sales were down by 5% in September 1989 compared to a year earlier. An average increase in consumer prices of 4.7% over the first ten months of 1989 took a big bite out of the buying power of consumers. Uncertainty caused by expectations of slow growth and high interest rates will make consumers more cautious in 1990.

While the mining and fishing industries will face a variety of problems in coming months, other sectors have performed well. The value of manufacturing shipments went up by 6% over the first nine months of 1989. A decline in food processing related to fish plant closures was masked by solid gains in pulp and paper and transportation equipment. Recent and planned investments will increase manufacturing productivity and output in the medium term. In some cases, like the Sydney Steel modernization and the expansion at Bowaters in Liverpool, some jobs will be lost. Bulk and container traffic through the port of Halifax was up sharply over the first ten months of 1989.

In spite of these and other positive signs, intensifying problems in the fishing industry, government restraint and increasingly cautious consumers will slow growth further in 1990. High interest rates constrained growth through 1989. A continuation of this high interest rate policy in 1990 risks recession.

Real output in Nova Scotia closed to 2% in 1989, down from 3% in 1988. Economic growth in 1989 was driven largely by strong increases in investment in manufacturing government and utilities. Public and private investment increased by almost 15% despite a very sluggish housing market. Unemployment rates have come down during 1989 in spite of some problem areas. This was more due to slower labour

force growth than to a rapid pace of job creation. Nevertheless, employment grew by about 8,000 in 1989.

The fishing sector faced a number of permanent and temporary plant closures in 1989. Preliminary indications are that the value of landings is more than keeping pace with 1988, however, thanks to better shellfish landings. Problems of overcapacity in the industry will intensify in 1990 as cuts in groundfish quotas are expected across the board.

Nova Scotia's mining output was limited by a three month strike affecting production at coal mines operated by the Cape Breton Development Corporation. Production should bounce back in 1990 although there are production problems at the Lingan mine that may close it unless new investment is made to improve productivity. An expansion program at one of the province's pulp and paper mills was scheduled for completion in November 1989 and should add to output in 1990. Nova Scotia's manufacturing sector continues to modernize. The electric arc furnace and new equipment at Sydney Steel should be running by the end of 1989, and there are expansions at Michelin Tire's three plants and at the Pratt and Whitney factory at the Halifax airport.

The North American slowdown, coupled with continuing problems in the fishery will reduce real economic growth to a 1% to 1.5% range in 1990. In this environment it is likely that employment growth will slow causing a modest increase in unemployment rates.

Committees of the Board Reports

The Voluntary Planning Board

Chairman - Allan C. Shaw

This was the 26th year of operations for Voluntary Planning. It is an independent, arms-length advisory agency to government.

Voluntary Planning is a strictly volunteer organization divided into sector committees, each of which represents a corresponding sector of the Nova Scotia economy, such as agriculture, manufacturing, fisheries, energy, forestry. The Board of 40 is comprised of the sector chairmen and members at large.

Proposals flow upward to the Voluntary Planning Board from the sector committees' deliberations.

The Board aims for a reasonable point of view, one that represents the interests of all Nova Scotians and is consistent with good planning principles.

Consensus on proposals and recommendations ensures that Voluntary Planning maintains its broad point of view and does not reflect the narrow interests of one particular group.

The Voluntary Planning Board has a direct and structured relationship with the Premier and Cabinet and also maintains an ongoing, functional relationship with line departments at the sectoral level.

The primary themes dominating the 1989-90 Board agenda were:

- The development of an Economic Strategy
- Land Use and Land Use Planning
- The Environment and Sustainable Economic Development
- The proposed Goods and Services Tax
- The situation in the Fisheries
- The Health Care Sector Response to the Royal Commission on Health Care Report
- The Energy Sector Report
- The Community College System

Guest presenters at the five 1989-90 Board meetings were:

Elaine Sibson, VP Board Member, on the Goods and Services Tax

Murray Coolican, Vice-President of Government Relations, National Sea; and John Gordon, Ecology Action on "Towards a Conservation Strategy for Nova Scotia"

Fred Morley, Chief Economist of APEC on - "The Atlantic Economy - Review of 1989, Outlook for 1990"

The Hon. Roland J. Thornhill, Minister of Tourism and Culture.

Bob Doherty, Director of Policy and Planning - Department of Industry, Trade and Technology on "Europe 1992"

David Pecaut, Canada Consulting - Annual Meeting keynote speaker on Economic Development

The Executive Committee

Chairman - Allan C. Shaw

The Executive Committee serves as the chief operating vehicle of the Voluntary Planning Board. While the Board is the final authority, the Executive Committee, acting on its behalf oversees the management of Voluntary Planning.

Since the Executive Committee meets monthly and the Board meets five or six times per year, the Executive may address issues so urgent that there is insufficient time for referral to the Board. The Executive Committee is chaired by the Chairman of the Board and is staffed by the Executive Director.

In 1989-90, The Executive Committee initiated a planning process to determine Voluntary Planning's priorities and better match limited resources to priorities.

Three sectors, Free Trade Adjustment, Professional Services Industry, and Research and Development were folded into the Economic Strategy process.

Another three sectors' interests, Community Development, Human Resources, and the Land Resources Coordinating Council were reviewed in light of the established priorities of the Board and their effectiveness.

The Executive Committee monitored the restructuring of the Manufacturing Sector and the Tourism Sector as well as the start-up of a new committee on Small Business.

In addition to the monitoring of the Voluntary Planning Budget, the Executive Committee made special request of Management Board and secured an in-house computer.

A key area of responsibility of the Executive is to follow up on recommendations forwarded to government by the Voluntary Planning Board and Sectors.

1989-90 examples of this included:

- Meetings with the Premier on the role of the Public Utilities Board
- Follow-up discussions with Government on the Abandoned Rail Lines
- Monitoring the implementation of the Community College System
- Support for the start-up of the Construction Industry Development Council of Nova Scotia (CIDCONS).

The Executive Committee provided input to ACOA consultations, heard presentation from the Trade Council, and met with Free Trade Adjustment (FTA)Working Group officials.

The Nominating Committee

Chairman - Jerry Amirault

The Nominating Committee, this year, completed its three year renewal plan for Voluntary Planning Board membership.The plan has attempted to balance the changes brought about by a signifcant number of new Board members with the need for stability and continuity.

The Committee will continue with its mandate to ensure that the Board properly represents a partnership of Business,Labour and Government and reflects the broad interests of all Nova Scotians.

CORE

Chairman - Bill Mac Lennan

The economic environment which led to the development of "Building Competitiveness: An Economic Strategy" in 1984, has changed considerably. Some of the more noteworthy changes include:

- Canada U.S. Free Trade Agreement
- Interprovincial Trade Barriers
- Europe 1992
- Eastern Europe Reform
- Rapid Pace of Technological Change
- Environmental Concerns

Government, in recognizing this rapidly changing environment announced its intention to begin an Economic Strategy Update in the Speech from the Throne (1989). The process is being led by the Department of Industry, Trade and Technology, with the CORE Committee acting as the primary focus of private sector involvement. Other departments and agencies are involved in the process on issues relevant to them.Finally, Canada Consulting Group has been retained to assist the process with research and information gathering.

The "key concepts" driving the Strategy process include:

- Wealth creation
- Increased value of traded goods and services
- Private sector growth and a more business oriented economy

- A dynamic economy able to withstand intrinsic business failure
- A joint commitment by the private sector and government, led by the private sector

In order to support these key concepts, five levers or strategy areas have been identified:

- Human Resource
- Trade and Competitiveness
- Technology
- New Business
- Government Role

Five corresponding issue groups were formed to examine the topics and associated research findings, and develop recommendations. These issue groups report to the main CORE Committee and are composed of selected Voluntary Planning, Trade Council and Council of Applied Science and Technology members.

In addition to these groups a sixth committee, responsible for the communications function of the strategy, was struck. This small group of private sector people is known as the Winning in Nova Scotia or WINS Group.

The WINS Group has met several times and have determined the following messages to be necessary to the acceptance and success of the Strategy:

- There must be wealth creation prior to dealing with wealth distribution.
- Real gains in wealth come from traded goods and services.
- A dynamic economy has change, including job disappearance.
- **Nova Scotia can and must win!!!**

The messages will be delivered to a variety of opinion leaders, who in turn are in a position to influence a broader audience. Leaders will be sought from business, labour, senior civil servants in economic portfolios, Cabinet, academics ranging from secondary school to universities and colleges and the media.

These target audiences will be reached through a variety of meetings and presentations both prior to and after the release of the Strategy.

In preparation for the substantive development phase of the Strategy, CORE has:

- held a 2 day kick-off roundtable
- organized the issue groups and WINS
- developed a timetable for completion
- liaised with Canada Consulting Group on possible research areas
- presented the process to the Economic Planning Committee of Cabinet
- assisted in providing research material
- conducted consultation meetings with opinion leaders
- coordinated a 1 1/2 day research wrap-up, and issue group presentation session
- consultations with VP Sector committees and other private sector organizations

Finally, it is expected that a draft of the Economic Strategy Update will be presented to the Economic Planning Committee of Cabinet in June of 1990.

Sector Committee Reports

Agriculture Sector

Chairman - Peter Wile

During the past year, the Sector was involved in monitoring GATT and Free Trade activities. Like most other industries, Agriculture has been assessing the impact the Goods and Services Tax will have on their sector.

Late last year, the Sector struck a sub-committee to prepare a brief on the Animal Welfare/Rights Issue. Although there does not appear to be a very active animal welfare/rights group in the province, recent national and international events suggest that the Nova Scotia agricultural industry should be more cognizant of our changing times. The paper briefly outlines the issue, the national and provincial efforts,relevant legislation, and the Nova Scotia situation. Finally, it recommends actions which the local agribusiness industry and government could undertake to ensure the Nova Scotia agriculture industry keeps pace with our changing society and is more in tune with the humane treatment of animals. The paper has recently been approved by committee and will be presented at the Sector level in late February. It is hoped that the document will be approved by the Board in March and forwarded to government.

A membership review was carried out this year and the Sector is in the process of inviting new members. Quite recently, Linda Grant was named our new vice-chairman.

Some members and staff attended the National Agri-Food Conference in Ottawa in December, 1989 and the Sector will be monitoring its outcome through the resulting consultative process.

Community Development Sector

Chairman - Heather Williams

The Community Development Sector was one of those sectors under review in 1989. Its activities, for this reason, were limited to a process of self examination and restructuring. Early in 1990, the creation of two committees to provide Community Development input to the CORE Committee process and to review the Government of Nova Scotia's Community Economic Development Strategy was approved.

In a time when fiscal restraint is the clearest of delimitors, the Community Development Sector anticipates making an important contribution to sustainable development in Nova Scotia.

Construction Sector

Co-Chairmen - Murray Nicoll and Fern Tardif

From 1987 to early 1989 the major focus of the Construction Sector had been the development of "Strategy 2000" and the creation of the Construction Industry Development Council of Nova Scotia (CIDCONS). With the completion of the Strategy, and the formation of a CIDCONS Steering Committee to organize Council operations, the Sector was able to refocus its efforts on other policy issues in the 1989-90 period.

Through a survey of members, a number of priorities were identified for the Sector's consideration, including the promotion and use of CIDCONS as the voice of the construction industry; liaison with government on issues of training/performance standards; and the development of a strategy on the upgrading of provincial infrastructure.

Given the extensive volunteer effort involved in the development of Strategy 2000, the Sector is most gratified with the progress being made in the implementation of the Strategy recommendations, in particular the establishment of the Construction Industry Advisory Council to oversee the apprenticeship training program and the official formation of CIDCONS in December 1989. Regarding the other major thrusts of the document, a formal response was requested from the Provincial Government, through the Cabinet Secretariat, regarding its commitment/ability to proceed on each of the specific recommendations to government. The Sector would then be in a position to turn over the task of the Strategy's implementation to CIDCONS and department representatives as assigned, and would refocus its efforts on policy issues.

The general concerns of the Sector regarding the impact of the GST on the construction industry were included in the Voluntary Planning submission to the Federal Finance Committee.

The Construction Sector supports in principle the conclusion of TRIP/Canada on the need for upgrading roads, bridges, sewers and water mains. The Committee is in the process of developing a strategy paper on the subject, which will include input from other relevant Voluntary Planning Sectors. In preparation for the strategy, representatives from the Sector attended the FCM conference "Bridging the Gap" - on Atlantic Canada's need for environmental and transportation infrastructure, and "Travel 2000" information sessions.

Energy Sector

Chairman - Gary Croswell

For the past year, the major focus of the Energy Sector has been the preparation of a paper identifying energy related issues and opportunities for the next decade.

While the initial intent was to revise the Sector's 1985 report, "Energy Update 1995", it became evident that, given the scope of information being collected, a new report was warranted.

The Sector received verbal and written submissions for inclusion in the report, on topics ranging from such global issues as international oil markets and nuclear energy development, to those of more local interest - the role of the Public Utilities Board and the development of alternative sources of energy. An Editing Sub-Committee was appointed to compile a composite report. A final document is anticipated by mid 1990.

The Sector contributed to a provincial submission to the Task Force on Energy and Environment. The Task Force recommended steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Environment and Economy Committee

Co-Chairmen - Ray Cote and Robbie Shaw

Plans are well advanced to hold a workshop on economic incentives to enhance environmental management, co-sponsored by the Environment and Economy Committee and the Provincial Round Table on the Environment and

Economy. The workshop's objectives are to educate key decision makers on all facets of the issue of economic incentives and environmental behaviour and to generate recommendations for presentation to Voluntary Planning Board and government.

The Sector presented a report to the Voluntary Planning Board on January 24, 1990 entitled "Towards Sustainable Development in Coastal Areas." Upon approval of the report it will be presented to the appropriate Provincial and Federal Department Ministers for action.

The Environment and Economy Committee and Department of Environment cooperatively planned and co-sponsored a three day conference in October 1989 entitled "Building Partnerships for Environmentally Sound Development in Nova Scotia." The conference was highly successful, attended by over 300, and involved a broad cross section of Nova Scotians. During the conference a commitment was made by the Minister of Environment that a sustainable development strategy for Nova Scotia would be produced with input from the private sector.

The Environment and Economy Committee's Code of Practice Working Group produced and circulated 10,000 copies of a brochure entitled "Four Key Steps to Introducing Environmental Sensitivity to Your Organization." The objectives of the brochure are to encourage all businesses and organizations to:

- Make environmental sensitivity one of their goals
- Develop and apply a broad policy toward the environment to guide activities
- Find ways to introduce the policy
- Monitor effectiveness of policy

Fisheries Sector

Chairman - Bob MacClure

During the past year the Sector has continued to monitor the crisis in the fishery. Following completion of an industry-wide questionnaire, the Sector wrote to the Premier regarding the problems in the industry and offering suggestions to improve the current state of the fishery.The recommendations addressed the over capacity in the processing sector and the over fishing capacity in the harvesting sector, as well as maintainence of the province's moratorium on fish plant licences and fish buyer licences. Members provided options to Federal/Provincial Fisheries officials on how the Federal/Provincial Fisheries agreement dollars should be spent.

Further topics discussed included GST implications to the Fishery, lobster size issue, water pollution, and fisheries education programs.

The recent release of the Hache Report of the Scotia-Fundy Groundfish Task Force has provided extensive discussions on its 31 recommendations. The Sector members will be analyzing the report further before making any response.

Forestry Sector

Chairman - Diana Blenkhorn

With cooperation from the Department of Lands and Forests, the Forestry Sector has undertaken, as its major objective, a comprehensive evaluation of the twelve strategic elements contained in the 1986 Forest Policy for Nova Scotia.

The Sector recently established a broad based, Education and Information Sub-committee to review the status of existing education programs currently provided to the general public and to the school system recommending expansion and coordination of these programs as required.

The Sector also circulated and analyzed the results of a comprehensive educational questionnaire which was designed to extract broad based information about education from woodlot owners, industry, forestry organizations and government departments.

The Sector discussed and agreed to assist initially in establishing an Advisory Committee on Plant Health for Nova Scotia.

Like other Sectors, Forestry has continued to monitor and discuss Goods and Services Tax implications to the industry.

The Sector gave both an oral and written submission to the Nova Scotia Forestry Advisory Council on "Green Belts and Clear Cutting Along Major Highways and Waterways in Nova Scotia".

In response to the controversial question of crown land and ownership of land in Nova Scotia, the Sector decided to first obtain the proper information. A full Sector meeting was devoted to a presentation from the Department of Lands and Forests on the Provincial forest inventory, geological information systems, econometric model for determination of future wood supply and characterization of the future forest, and production of the forests in Nova Scotia.

A further meeting provided a more specific presentation on a regional basis, dealing with fibre supply. The Sector is now in a better position to comment on land ownership issues in Nova Scotia.

Health Care Sector

Chairman - Jerry Amirault

The Royal Commission on Health Care provided the Sector with an active 1989-90.

The Sector played a valuable role early in the Royal Commission process by providing a means for group and consensus building.

Sector members reviewed and provided input to a number of the Commission's discussion papers. Members also participated in the Commission hearings.

The Sector is reviewing the Commission report and plans to make a presentation to the Voluntary Planning Board in March (1990). A preliminary review has been forwarded to the Hon. D. Nantes, Minister of Health.

The following consensus points were established:

- unanimous Sector support for the Royal Commission's five principles - health policies oriented to healthy outcomes; participation of citizens and providers of health services in the planning and management of the health system; decentralization and regionalization; accountability for the prudent use of limited resources ; matching health resources to health needs.
- that a process of dialogue and consensus building begin as soon as possible aimed at amendments and the adoption of specific recommendations;
- that implementation must begin soon, and must be monitored and completed, starting with the Health Council;

- that Voluntary Planning's role as a sounding board be impressed upon the Minister and his department.

Human Resources Sector

Chairman - Bill Skrynsky

The Human Resources Sector was restructured in December of 1989 to broaden private sector and geographic representation. The sector will deal exclusively with the following issues in 1990:

- Community College System
- Changes in the UIC Act
- Literacy
- Human resource issues in the Economic Development Strategy

Land Resources Coordinating Council

Chairman - Donald M. Duncan

The Land Resources Coordinating Council continues to be one of Voluntary Planning's busiest sectors.

Dr. John Underwood reviewed, and presented LRCC with copies of Hon. John Leefe, Minister of Environment's report "Canada/Nova Scotia Acid Rain Reduction Agreements" for the years ending March 31, 1988/89.

LRCC's Share-the-Land Committee is coordinating activities of some 12 member landowners/landuser organizations to cooperatively participate in the Silvilog '90 program September 13-16 at Chignecto management area. The share-the-land display promotes such LRCC principles as good land use management, responsible use ensures privilege of use, ask permission first, landowners rights and responsibilities and stewardship.

As part of LRCC's firm commitment to educational programs, a proposal was presented to the Caretakers of the Environment to host their seventh international conference in Nova Scotia in 1993, promoting "The Environment and Natural Resources".

Believing that responsible land owners and users are created at an early age LRCC has introduced a waste management school awards program into all schools in Nova Scotia encouraging students, teachers and communities to work together for a cleaner environment.

As well, LRCC approved a teachers guide, student booklet and slides for the production and delivery of a program on the dangers of hazardous chemicals to all grades 4 through 6.

An important part of LRCC's activities in 1989 was the establishment of a Search and Rescue Committee to encourage the passage of legislation to designate The Emergency Measures Organization as an essential emergency service and encourage/support for the establishment of a provincial association of search and rescue teams in Nova Scotia.

LRCC continues to promote the need for the enactment of a comprehensive occupiers liability act and the completion of base and property mapping in the seven western counties in Nova Scotia.

Manufacturing Sector

Chairman - Gordon Jones

The Manufacturing Sector underwent a reorganization over the past year having been inactive for most of the 1988-89 period. As an initial step in the restructuring process, a questionnaire was forwarded to 585 manufacturing firms in Nova Scotia, representing a cross section of geographic areas, industry types and sizes of operation. Based on the responses a number of current policy issues were identified and membership list developed.

In the coming year, the Sector will be exploring concerns raised in the survey and other economic planning issues, including the availability of suitably skilled workers, access to information on technology advancement, environmental protection, and the impact of government regulations.

Mineral Resources

Chairman - Greg Isenor

The Sector surveyed local industries and individuals who are directly and indirectly involved in the mineral industry in order to obtain their priority list of major problems and constraints affecting the industry and possible solutions to resolve same.Topics discussed throughout the year include policies and new directions to improve the long-term financial stability of the mining industry.

While the Sector has not been very active this year, they will be meeting shortly to discuss long-term plans.

Professional Services Industries Sector

Chairman - Hugh Vincent

Interests merged into Economic Strategy process

Research and Development Sector

Chairman - Arthur Sager

Interests merged into Economic Strategy process

Special Committee on Free Trade

Chairman - Sandy Archibald

Interests merged into Economic Strategy process

Taxation Committee

Chairman - Edwin Harris Q.C.

The Committee enjoyed an active 1989/90; aside from regular meetings monitoring the state of the provincial fiscal performance, the proposed Goods and Services Tax was the Committee's major concern.

In connection with the GST the Committee coordinated Voluntary Planning's submission to the Blenkarn Finance Committee, made a presentation to the Blenkarn Committee, and

met with the Hon. Ken Streatch, Minister of Small Business Development and Hon. Greg Kerr, Minister of Finance.

The Taxation Committee undertook a membership review to ensure full sectoral representation.

Finally, in a letter to the Hon. G. Kerr, the Sector made the following recommendations/concerns known:

* that the reduced operating deficit ('88 - '89) of the province was mainly due to the economic boom in Southern Ontario;
* how capital expenditures are calculated in the deficit;
* the rising burden of servicing the provincial debt;
* that the government's efforts in strategic planning continue but a process more open to private sector input is recommended;
* the province's deteriorating infrastructure and the corresponding capital expenditure to upgrade;
* that the machinery and equipment tax be lifted from existing plants.

Tourism Sector

Chairman - Paul Moore

While the Tourism Sector has not been operating this past year, a sub-committee of the Sector - The Planning Committee - has been quite active.

During the year, the Committee continually worked towards reorganization and re-establishment of the Tourism Sector. In June, an intensive one day Symposium was held with representatives from most aspects of the tourism industry.

Following an analysis of the Symposium, a final report was prepared and circulated to all participants. Work then began on an action plan to reinstate the Sector. The action plan is now complete and potential new members are being approached to become Sector members and attend the first meeting slated for early March 1990.

Transportation Sector

Chairman - Elwood Dillman

Under its mandate to advise on policy issues related to transportation services in Nova Scotia, the Transportation Sector has been active this past year in providing input to a number of federal and provincial initiatives.

Federally, the Sector supported the retention of the Atlantic Region Freight Assistance Program and recommended a more equitable policy for Nova Scotia with the elimination of "At and East" export rates on grain and flour. The Sector prepared a brief on GST implications, which formed part of the overall Voluntary Planning submission to the Federal Finance Committee.

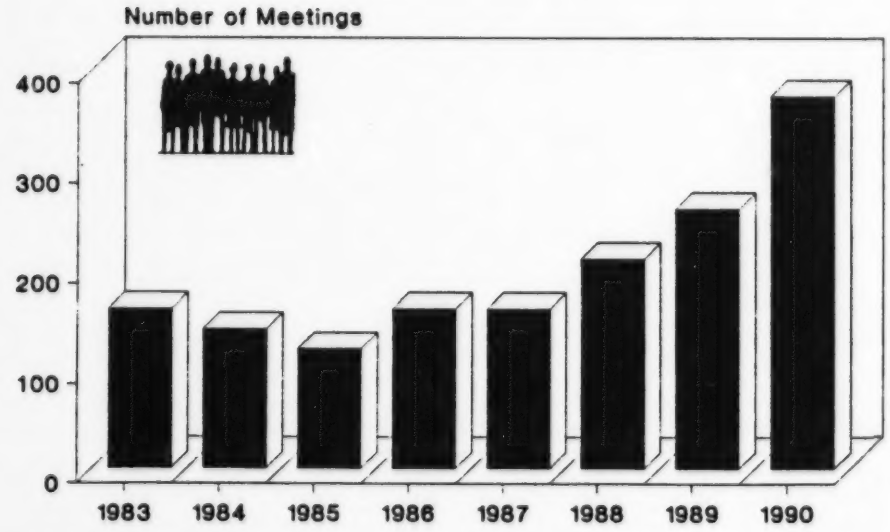
Federal guidelines addressing the recovery of air and marine service costs are anticipated in the next year. The Sector will be reviewing the document and providing recommendations through the Voluntary Planning Board.

At the provincial level, the Transportation Sector continues to urge for amendments to the Motor Carrier Act during this session of the Legislature. The Sector continues to press for the upgrading of Highway 104 as well as implementation ofthe National Safety Code. Detailed discussions have taken place on the government sponsored consultant's study "Surface Freight Transportation: Alternatives into the 21st Century."

The Sector continues to monitor a number of issues. These include CN's proposal for a Nova Scotia based intermodal terminal, the possibility of an extension in the period of operation for the CN Marine ferry service from North Sydney to Argentia, rail line abandonments and the competitive position of the Port of Halifax.

A membership review and recruitment was carried out to ensure broad based representation from transportation/distribution organizations in the province.

Voluntary Planning
Total Meetings



NUMBER OF MEETINGS BY YEAR

Spin-Off Organization Reports

Occasionally, Voluntary Planning's mandate to implement measures within the private sector to promote sound planning has led to the creation of new organizations or agencies with their own specific purpose.

While these organizations have acquired a vigorous life of their own, they have remained in close and productive affiliation with Voluntary Planning

Construction Industry Development Council of Nova Scotia (CIDCONS)

Chairman - E. Michael Byrne

Through and with the support of the Construction Sector of Voluntary Planning, a new Council was formed last December 8, 1989 to "coordinate and consolidate the collective energies of all construction industry organizations for the purposes of furthering the development and enhancement of the capacity, quality and productivity of the construction industry in Nova Scotia". Presently, over 30 organizations including design, labour, professional, residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional construction related associations have joined together to achieve the quoted mission statement.

Under the chairmanship of E. Michael Byrne, FRAIC, a twelve member Board of Directors comprised of industry leaders will focus on important industry goals that include the following:

* To establish and maintain appropriate recognition of the construction industry by the Government of the Province of Nova Scotia as one of this province's major economic sectors. (approximately $3 Billion Annually to GPP)
* To promote local research and innovation and use of latest technology to achieve the highest quality and efficiency of industry output.
* To establish internal communication programs within the construction industry to achieve a high level of common understanding.
* To foster internal joint conferencing between all segments of the industry to achieve and maintain the highest level of stability and productivity.
* To foster the establishment of external marketing programs on behalf of the industry at large, in order to maintain full use of the industries capacity.
* To cooperate with governments to coordinate and consolidate construction related education in relation to the needs of the industry.

The formation of CIDCONS is the first recommendation to be implemented of many significant conclusions presented in VP's "Construction Strategy 2000" document, designed to move this most important industry forward into the next decade and century.

Arson Prevention Council of Nova Scotia

Chairman - Lester Settle

The Arson Prevention Council was incorporated as an independent organization in 1985 as a result of the support of the Land Resour-

ces Coordinating Council. The purpose of the Council is to focus educational resources and provide financial rewards for information on the crime of arson.

In 1989 the Arson Prevention Council negotiated a formal relationship with Crime Stoppers of Nova Scotia as the agency to receive "tips" on arson related crimes and to provide the funds and contacts for the payment of cash awards for information leading to investigations and arrests.

The Arson Prevention Council raises funds from insurance companies, larger land owners, and agricultural commodity groups to support its educational and financial award programs.

Members of the Council represent Land Resources Coordinating Council, Minas Basin Pulp and Paper, Kings County Mutual Fire Insurance Company, Chief Fire Officers Association, RCMP, Crime Stoppers of Nova Scotia, Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture, Nova Scotia Woodlot Owners Association, Nova Scotia Forest Products Association, The Insurance Bureau of Canada (NS), and a small number of interested individuals.

The Economic Developers Association of Nova Scotia

Chairman - Frank Anderson

The Voluntary Asssociations for Community Develpment Sector of Voluntary Planning evolved in 1980-81 as an effort to encourage umbrella groups involved in community development organize provincially and to promote the following three objectives:

1. Removal of barriers to development

2. Identification of opportunities for new and expanded growth

3. Involvement of the private sector, on a coordinated and balanced basis, in a continuing program of economic and social development.

In early 1983, a sub-committee of VACD was struck to investigate subjects which were specifically related to economic development.

This committee would:

- permit industrial and economic development commissions to improve their communication linkages.
- assist the practitioners in the individual commissions to improve their professional capacities and information bases.
- meet with appropriate resources persons as required.
- be in a better position to develop and recommend appropriate policy suggestions to government.

From the early meetings of some fourteen industrial commissions the organization has expanded to include some forty industrial and economic development commissions in the Province of Nova Scotia.

In April 1984, an organization was registered under the Societies Act of Nova Scotia with the name "Economic Development Associations of Nova Scotia" (EDANS). The membership agreed to continue working under the auspices of Voluntary Planning until the group became self-sufficient.

Through the process of creating a province-wide organization that could address itself to the needs of municipal economic development agencies whose goals and objectives are as

diversified as the province itself, several major issues surfaced and were or still are being addressed. Sub-committees were established for each of these areas of concern which have resulted in discussion papers being prepared and presented through the Voluntary Planning Board.

To date three discussion papers have been developed on:

1. the Industrial Commission Financial Support Program;

2. the Industrial Commission Act; and

3. a proposal for the professional upgrading of economic developers in the province of Nova Scotia in conjunction with the national program of the Industrial Developers Association of Canada and the University of Waterloo.

Negotiations commenced two years ago on the Industrial Commission Financial Support Program and the rewriting of the Industrial Commission Act of Nova Scotia. The first seminar in the professional upgrading was held in November, 1986, on the "Role of the Municipality in Economic Development."

A review of the Industrial Commission Act and the Financial Support Program was initiated. The resulting papers have been presented to government at the municipal and provincial levels. The proposals recommended...

- the appointment of a Director of Community Economic Development in the provincial ministry;
- that provincial funding be enshrined in Legislative form;

that funding levels be related to:

- powers of the agency;
- the agency's ability as demonstrated by preparation of an Economic Development Strategy;
- efficiency as measured by number of municipal units participating in the commission; and
- that Economic Development Strategies be introduced as a management tool.

The professional upgrading program has grown from a brainstorming session held in late 1985. The first priority subject chosen by the membership was marketing. The first seminar was held in November 1986.

In late 1986, EDANS co-sponsored a provincial seminar on "The Municipal Role in Economic Development" also sponsoring another provincial seminar on "An Economic Development Strategy - why and how to?" in early spring 1987.

In 1987, the members of EDANS agreed to change the name of the organization from the Economic Development Associations of Nova Scotia to the Economic Developers Association of Nova Scotia. This name change and the subsequent changes in the constitution and by-laws enables the organization to broaden its perspective as well as its membership.

Most recently EDANS has put forward recommendations to government on infrastructure assistance to Industrial Commissions and the implementation of a regional structure for financial assistance.

Hunting and Fishing Guides of Nova Scotia

Secretary - Ben Slaunwhite

The Hunting and Fishing Guides of Nova Scotia were formed in October 1981 to act as an umbrella organization for the various groups interested in the Hunting, Fishing and Recreational Guiding activities in the Province.

The Hunting and Fishing Guides have two members from each constituent organization such as the Professional Guides, Nova Scotia Guides, the Professional Outfitters Association etc., on the Board of Directors plus two independent members named by LRCC. Through this group recommendations, changes, etc., are forwarded to Government.

One of the first goals of the fledgling organization was to improve the quality of Guiding in Nova Scotia.

In April of '82, in co-operation with the Department of Education a Dacum Chart was compiled showing the skills required by a Professional Guide.

Further development of this plan resulted in a Professional Guide Course being held in the summer of '86, this went so well that additional courses were held in '87 and '88.

Arrangements are presently being made to upgrade this course, and negotiations are under way to obtain training programs that will cover all aspects of the Guiding Industry.

Upon recommendation of the Minister of Lands and Forest a Guide Examination Board was formed.

Members of the Hunting and Fishing Guides were appointed to this board, which set up a testing procedure through which any person applying for a Guides Licence must pass a written exam, plus a practical test on Maps & Compass and Firearm Handling before a licence is issued.

The Hunting and Fishing Guides played an important part in having new seasons established such as the Bow Season, Bear Season, and look forward to the development of a Guiding Program that will be beneficial to the Province of Nova Scotia.

Ground Search and Rescue Association of Nova Scotia

President - William Mc Laughlin

The Ground Search and Rescue volunteers within this province have, since December 1988, been in negotiation with the Emergency Measures Organization (EMO) and the RCMP, to try to improve the lot of the volunteer searchers within the province. These negotiations have been carried out through a Minister's Task Force comprised of 4 Volunteer members : two from the RCMP, one from the EMO , one from theUrban Police Association, and one from the Helicopter Service.

It came to light during December 1989 that LRCC of Volunteer Planning had been approached to form an Association of Ground Searchers by one of the twenty-three Nova Scotia Teams, the Waverly Ground Search and Rescue.

Since the Task Force had been working on an association, one member of the Task Force was asked to brief LRCC on the activities to date.

This briefing culminated in support from the members on going forward with the Task Force Plan. It is worth noting that Voluntary Planning, through Mr. John MacGregor (Sector Co-Ordinator), offered technical advice and also pledged administrative and secretarial support to the Ground Search and Rescue Association.

As a result during the latter part of January 1990, 19 of the 23 teams met at Lands and Forest Offices, Shubenacadie. These 35 representatives decided unanimously to establish a Ground Search and Rescue Association, formally registered under the Societies Act with By Laws to be decided upon at the next meeting. An interim executive was elected to carry out the initial business of the Association. John MacGregor was the 36th member of that meeting and provided technical advice, assistance and moral support to our fledgling group. John's experience and knowledge added greatly to a timely formation of an association that is sorely needed in this province.

Many thanks to John and Voluntary Planning for their support to our organization.

The Clean Nova Scotia Foundation

Chairman - Vera Stone

The Clean Nova Scotia Foundation had its beginnings as a Litter Abatement Sub-Committee of the Land Resources Coordinating Council in 1982. The need to seriously address the economic and environmental impacts of litter in Nova Scotia was felt to be best addressed by the formation of an independent society with professional management . In July of 1987, the Foundation was incorporated with Mrs. Isabel Archibald, a long-serving member of LRCC, as Chairman.

Pursuing the objectives of encouraging litter prevention and promoting recycling, during 1988 programs were developed by Clean Nova Scotia to assist municipalities in organizing litter clean-up campaigns and the first Recycling Guide and Directory of Recyclers was published. Mrs. Vera B. Stone, representing the Girl Guides of Canada became Foundation Chairman and that summer the Foundation acted as the secretariat and managed the Minister of the Environment's Task Force on Litter Abatement resulting in new legislation the following spring.

The Clean Nova Scotia Foundation has become a credible resource centre providing information, factual advice and programme guidelines to its close to five hundred members and a broad range of individuals, corporations and governments. Their Beach Sweep programme saw well over one thousand citizens take outings to clean-up shorelines and record their findings during 1989, drawing national media attention. One point three million litter bags have been handed out to the public for use in their automobiles. Educational programmes are being prepared and presentations regularly made to all levels within the educational system. Several informative publications and guidelines relating to litter prevention and recycling have been produced as have two litter prevention messages for television. A major new programme is currently being developed that will deliver various environmental awareness projects at the community level.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Hon. Ken Streatch

Perhaps because Voluntary Planning is a unique organization, it takes a little time to understand it completely. It is a great advantage, therefore, to work with a Cabinet Minister who already has an appreciation for the organization and understands its need for independence. We extend our sincerest gratitude to Ken Streatch (who spent some years on the Agriculture Sector of Voluntary Planning) for a useful and productive year spent within the Department of Small Business Development. His understanding and support were valuable assets to the organization.

Mr. Streatch has an agricultural background. He attended the Nova Scotia Agriculture College, and owned and operated Granview Farms and Musquodoboit Valley Quality Sod Farms until 1978, when he was elected to the Nova Scotia Legislature. The farm continues to be operated by members of his family.

Mr. Streatch has distinguished himself in both community and business affairs, holding office in several organizations.

He continues to be actively involved in church and community affairs.

He began his career in public life at the municipal level, and served five years as Councillor with the Municipality of Halifax County. During this time, he was Chairman of the Finance Committee, and served a term as Deputy Warden.

Since 1978 Mr. Streatch has held six cabinet positions.

The Honourable Ken Streatch, Nova Scotia's Minister of Small Business Development, is the M.L.A. for Bedford-Musquodoboit Valley. Ken and his wife, Barb, have five children and four grandchildren.

Thanks to Ann Janega

When the Department of Small Business Development was created to encourage entrepreneurship in the province, it assumed administrative responsibility for Voluntary Planning. Ann Janega, its first deputy minister, had to learn to live with our unique organization at the same time that she had to give form to the new department. No small undertaking!

Ann found the time to attend all our meetings and was a ready participant. In administrative matters she was both cooperative and generous, making sure that Voluntary Planning's needs were taken care of, while its essential autonomy was respected.

Previously the Province's Coordinator of Regulations, Ann was responsible for the implementation of the government's regulatory reform program.

A native and life-long resident of Nova Scotia, she graduated from Dalhousie University with a Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Law degrees.

Prior to joining the Public Service of Nova Scotia, Ann was General Manager of the Better Business Bureau of Nova Scotia for seven years.This experience, coupled with her many professional and community service affiliations have kept her well informed on the challenges facing small business in Nova Scotia.

She is married with two sons and is active in church and community work.

On behalf of all Voluntary Planning members, thanks to Ann. We look forward to maintaining our good working relationship when future issues arise.

Farewell to Tony Lamport

Voluntary Planning has grown to depend on the special talents of Anthony Lamport.

Tony was seconded to Voluntary Planning, in late 1987 from the then Department of Development, to chronicle Voluntary Planning's 25 year history. "Common Ground, 25 Years of Voluntary Planning in Nova Scotia" was published in December 1988 to coincide with Voluntary Planning's 25th Anniversary.

We are grateful to the Department of Small Business Development for extending Tony's secondment to March 1990. With the benefit of the additional staff position and owing to Tony's research-writing talents, Voluntary Planning has been able to respond quickly and with reliable information to special requests from the Premier and Cabinet Ministers. These projects usually involved limited lead time and were of a cross-sectoral nature.

As well as being a gifted writer, Tony's initiative and creative style completed the Voluntary Planning staff team of eight.

Congratulations Tony for a job well done. Voluntary Planning is grateful to you for leaving an important legacy. "Common Ground" is more than an historic, commemorative account of Voluntary Planning's first 25 years; it has been the inspiration for a renewed Voluntary Planning.

Thanks to

Special thanks are extended to the following people for their contributions to Voluntary Planning.

Voluntary Planning Board Members

Mr. Allan C. Shaw, Chairman, Voluntary Planning Board

Mr. Robert P. Radchuck, Vice Chairman, Voluntary Planning Board

Mr. G.A. Amirault, Chairman, Health Care Sector

Mr. Sandy L. Archibald, Chairman, Special Committee on Free Trade Adjustment

Ms. Diana Blenkhorn, Chairman, Forestry Sector

Ms. Marilyn Cook

Mr. Raymond P. Cote, Co-Chairman, Environment and Economy Committee

Mr. Richard Clarke

Mr. Gary Croswell, Chairman, Energy Sector

Mr. John Dick

Mr. Elwood Dillman, Chairman, Transportation Sector

Mr. Don Downe

Mr. Donald M. Duncan, Chairman, Land Resources Coordinating Council

Mr. J.D. Eisenhauer

Mr. Edwin C. Harris, Q.C., Chairman, Taxation Committee

Mr. Greg Isenor, Chairman, Mineral Resources Sector

Mr. Hector Jacques

Ms. Ann Janega, Deputy Minister, Small Business Development

Mr. Gordon Jones, Chairman, Manufacturing Sector

Mr. Bob MacClure, Chairman, Fisheries Sector

Mr. Alex MacDonald

Mr. William MacLennan, Chairman, CORE Committee

Ms. Elizabeth Mills, Executive Director, Voluntary Planning

Mr. Paul Moore, Chairman, Tourism Sector

Mr. Murray Nicoll, Co-Chairman, Construction Sector

Mr. Bob Ojolick

Prof. H.R. Oldale

Mr. Arthur Sager, Chairman, Research and Development Sector

Mr. Jim A. Sapp

Prof. John T. Sears

Mr. Joe Shannon

Mr. Robbie Shaw, Co-Chairman, Environment and Economy

Ms. Elaine Sibson

Mr. Bill Skrynsky, Chairman, Human Resources Sector

Mr. Fern Tardif, Co-Chairman, Construction Sector

Mr. Ronald Thomas

Mr. Earl Tubrett

Mr. Hugh B. Vincent, Chairman, Professional Services Industry Sector

Mr. Charles (Junior) Weir

Ms. Sandra Whitehead

Mr. Pete Wile, Chairman, Agriculture Sector

Ms. Heather Williams, Chairman, Community Development Sector

Voluntary Planning Board Executive Committee

Mr. Allan C. Shaw, Chairman

Mr. Robert P. Radchuck, Vice-Chairman

Mr. G.A. Amirault

Ms. Diana Blenkhorn

Mr. Don Downe

Mr. Edwin C. Harris, Q.C.

Mr. Jim A. Sapp

Mr. Fern Tardif

Present Staff

Elizabeth Mills, Executive Director

Rita Fraser

Sergio Greguoldo

Michelle Harnish

Tony Lamport

John MacGregor

Peggy Tibbo-Cameron

Ruby Watson

Outgoing Chairmen

Mr. G.A. Amirault

Mr. Sandy L. Archibald

Mr. Donald M. Duncan

Mr. Bob Mac Clure

Mr. Paul Moore

Mr. Gerry Martin

Outgoing Board Members

Mr. John Dick

Ms. Joanne Galley

Mr. Hector Jacques

Ms. Ann Janega, Deputy Minister, SBD

Mr. Eric Meek

Mr. Peter O'Brien

Mr. Jim A. Sapp

Mr. Ronald Thomas

Mr. Gordon Tidmarsh

Mr. Ted Ueffing

Appendix

Voluntary Planning

Recommendations 1989 - 90

Recommendations	To whom	Date	Outcome
Executive Committee			
i) Various suggestions regarding the role of the Public Utilities Board	The Premier	May 24/89	Recommendations implemented
ii) Letter regarding implementation of the Community College	The Hon. Joel Matheson	Oct 23/89	Follow up letters to Premier and Cabinet
iii)Support for the creation of CIDCONS	The Premier and Management Board	Nov 23/89	Creation of CIDCONS
iv) That air links to New York and New England be encouraged	Transportation Agency of Canada	Feb22/90	
Sector: Agriculture			
i) Concerns of the Sector re GST be forwarded to the Voluntary Planning Board for inclusion in the overall Voluntary Planning presentation to the Blenkarn Committee	Voluntary Planning Board	Oct. 10/89	Agricultural concerns included in the Voluntary Planning submission
Sector: Construction			
i) That the concerns of the Sector re GST be forwarded to the Board for inclusion in overall submission	Voluntary Planning Board	Sept 20/89	General Themes included in Board's overall submission

Recommendations	To whom	Date	Outcome
ii) Letter from Sector/Board to Cape Breton Building Trades Council re ongoing involvement in Voluntary Planning and appointment of Labour Co-Chair/representative	President of Cape Breton Trades Council	May 3/ Nov23/89	Further contact required
iii) Support in principle the conclusions of TRIP/Canada on need for upgrading Provincial infrastructure. Develop strategy paper for Voluntary Planning Board approval	Voluntary Planning Board	Nov 23/89	Strategy to be developed by Spring 1990
iv) Letter from Sector to Deputy Minister of Cabinet Secretariat requesting formal response from Provincial Government on Strategy 2000		Nov 23/89	

Sector: Environment and Economy Committee

i) E/E Committee approved the Conservation/Development Sub-Committee slide tape entitled "Towards a Conservation Strategy for Nova Scotia"	Minister of Environment and Provincial Round Table on Environment and Economy	Sept. 22/89	Shown to Voluntary Planning Board and CORE Committee
ii) E/E Committee and Department of Environment co-sponsored a successful two day conference on "Building Partnerships for Environmentally Sound Development in Nova Scotia" October 15-17, 1989	Private sector and government officials	Oct. 15-17/89	Very successful
iii) Updated E/E Committee Terms of reference			

Recommendations	To whom	Date	Outcome
iv) Presented a paper entitled "Sustainable Development Perspective on the Economic Strategy Review"	CORE Committee		
v) Submission of Coastal areas working group entitled "Towards Sustainable Development in Coastal Areas"	Voluntary Planning Board	March 21/90	Sector consultations
vi) Code of Practice's working group produced a very popular brochure entitled "Four Key Steps to Introducing Environmental Sensitivity to Your Organization"CEO's and business ownersSept. 22/89 7000 brochures distributed to date			
vii) Economic Incentives working group received approval to co-sponsor "economic incentives work shop" with Provincial Round Table on Environment and Economy in June 1990			
viii) E/E Committee is working with Provincial Round Table on E/E towards the development of a sustainable development strategy for Nova Scotia			

Sector: Fisheries

i) Letter sent to Hon. D.P. McInnes re formal receipt of Fisheries questionnaire and results - applauding moratorium on fish plant and fish buyer licenses	Hon. D.P. McInnes	Apr. 17/89	Letter received from the Minister May 8/89

Recommendations	To whom	Date	Outcome
ii) Letter with 5 recommendations offered as a means of improving the current state of the fishing industry	Premier (copy to D.P. McInnes)	May 2/89	No written response received. Response verbally at Annual Meeting from Fisheries Deputy
iii) Verbal suggestions from the Sector on how best to utilize dollars through the Federal/Provincial Fisheries Agreement	Federal and Provincial Fisheries Officials	Oct. 3/89	Will not be known until after April 1, 1990
iv) Sector input to the Board re GST	Voluntary Planning Board	Oct. 3/89	Fisheries concerns included in overall Voluntary Planning presentation
v) Letter re constant industry consultation and approval before the Small Fishing Vessel Safety Regulations are finalized	Hon. B. Bouchard, Hon D.P. McInnes, cc. Canadian-Coast Guard Commissioner and Atlantic Director at Coast Guard	Nov. 22/89	Response Nov. 27 from Hon. D.P. McInnes
vi) Follow-up letter	As above	Jan. 19/90	Response Jan. 29/90
vii) Letter re major items for inclusion as zero-rated within GST legislation	Hon. M. Wilson, cc. Hon. G. Kerr, Hon. D.P. McInnes, Hon. T. Siddon	Jan. 15/90	No response yet. Acknowledgement from Hon. Siddon's office. Response pending
viii)Letter regarding long term approach to crisis in the industry	Premier	Feb 22/90	Concerns included in the Voluntary Planning submission
ix)Letter concerning the crisis in the fishery	Hon. D. P. Mc Innes cc Hon. T. Siddon	Feb 22/90	

Recommendations	To whom	Date	Outcome
Sector: Forestry			
i) Sector input to the Board about GST concerns and how the tax will affect Forestry	Voluntary Planning Board	Sept. 19/89	
ii) Oral and written submission to the Forestry Advisory Council on Green Belts and Clear Cutting along Major Highways and Waterways in Nova Scotia	Forestry Advisory Council	Oct. 19/89	No response
Sector: Land Resources Coordinating Council			
i) That base and property mapping in the seven western countries of Nova Scotia be completed	Premier and Attorney General	Apr. 26/89, Jan. 23/90	
ii) That LRCC Conservation Development Committee be transferred to the Environment and Economy Committee	Co-Chairman E/E Committee	May 12/89	Approved
iii) The Voluntary Planning Board approved in principle LRCC's Waste Management Awards Program for all schools and the Hazardous Chemical Project being developed for all Grades 4 to 6 schools	Ministers of Environment and Education	Sept. 27/89	Waste Management Awards Program launched by ministers of Education and Environment Feb. 23/90. Hazardous Chemicals Project to be launched Fall 1990
iv) The Voluntary Planning Board approved in principle LRCC proposal to host the 7th International Conference of Caretakers of the Environment in Nova Scotia in 1993. The Conference Theme "The Environment and Our Natural Resources"		Sept. 27/89	Awaiting results of proposal from Caretakers of Environment

Recommendations	To whom	Date	Outcome
v) LRCC comprehensive recommendations requesting that the province of Nova Scotia obtain title to all abandoned rail lines in Nova Scotia were presented to the Executive of the Voluntary Planning Board to ascertain government "Road Block" to recommendations	Voluntary Planning Executive	Sept. 6/89	Government not prepared to act at this time
vi) LRCC approved the Land Use/Management Committees questionnaire entitled "Land Resource Management and Land Use Planning in Nova Scotia" a survey of issues and concerns for circulation to all Voluntary Planning members		Oct. 25/89	Results of questionnaire being analyzed by Land Use Management Committee
vii) LRCC established a "Search and Rescue" Committee to research status of search and rescue operation in Nova Scotia, promote the need for the establishment of a provincial association and the enactment of provincial legislation in order to set training standards etc. for the 23 independent search and rescue teams in the Province		Dec. 7/89	Provincial association established on Jan. 27/90
viii) That LRCC Share-The-Land Committee participate in Silvilog '90 project by coordinating a minimum of 12 land owners and land user organizations in one display promoting "Ask Permission First" theme		Oct. 25/89	Joint display Sept. 13-16/90 in Chignecto Management area

Recommendations	To whom	Date	Outcome
ix) LRCC continues to promote the need for the enactment of a comprehensive Occupiers Liability Act.	Premier	Jan. 31/85	

Sector: Transportation

i) Letter from Voluntary Planning Chairman to Prime Minister indicating support for Atlantic Region Freight Assistance Program, and seeking assurance program would be maintained	Prime Minister/ Premier	April 13/89	Letter from Minister Bouchard confirming maintenance of program. Letters of support from 7 Local MP's
ii) Letter from Sector Chairman to Hon. George Moody requesting speedy implementation of standardized National Safety Code. Follow up letter issued September 1989	Hon.G. Moody, Minister of Tansportation and Communications	May10 Oct 24	Targeting full implementation by early 1990
iii) Letter from Voluntary Planning Chairman to Minister of Transport recommending a more equitable grain flour policy for Nova Scotia given elimination of "At & East". Follow up letter issued Sept. 1989. Also - review APTC impact study on subsidy elimination	Hon. Bouchard, Minister of Transport	May 17/89	Letter from Hon. Bouchard outlining reasons for cancellation
iv) Transportation Sector to have an input in development of economic strategy. Review "Freight Transportation Alternatives" as prepared for Department of Transportation	Sector	June 20/89	Consider written submission Consider written submission to Travel 2000 at February meeting meet with CORE in April

Recommendations	To whom	Date	Outcome
v) Sector subcommittee to prepare a submission to Voluntary Planning Board on GST implications	Voluntary Planning Board	Sept 5/89	Formed part of Voluntary Planning overall submission to Federal Finance Committee
vi) Letter from Sector Chairman to Provincial Attorney General requesting confirmation that proposed amendments to Motor Carrier Act be presented at next session of Legislature	Hon.T.McInnis, Hon. G. Moody	Sept 25/89	Acknowledged, will consider for 1990 session
vii) Letter from Chairman to Minister of Transport supporting efforts of Truro Chamber of Commerce encouraging improvements to Highway 104	Hon. G. Moody	Nov 23/89	Response-surveywork planned for winter '90 construction slated by '91-'92

1989-90 Voluntary Planning Board Calendar and Special Meetings/Events

1989

1 April - Economic Strategy Round Table

28 April - Breakfast Meeting with Minister Streatch - Review Federal Budget

17 May - Meeting with the Premier - PUB

24 May - Appointment of Robert P. Radchuck - Vice Chairman Voluntary Planning Board

24 May - 1988-89 Annual Meeting

3 June - Tourism Planning Committee host a Symposium

11-12 Sept. - ACOA Consultation Meetings

27 Sept. - Voluntary Planning Board Meeting

11 Oct. - Sir Graham Day address to "CORE" on Privatization

15 Oct. - Release of Voluntary Planning Environment Brochure: Four Key Steps to Introducing Environmental Sensitivity to Your Organization

15-17 Oct. - Department of Environment a Voluntary Planning co-host Conference "Building Partnership for Environmentally Sound Development in Nova Scotia"

19 Oct. - Presentation on the proposed Goods and Services Tax to the Blenkarn Committee

22 Nov. - Voluntary Planning Board Meeting

1 Dec. - Announcement that Voluntary Planning has been re-assigned to Department of Industry, Trade and Technology

8 Dec. - Construction Industry Development Council of Nova Scotia (CIDCONS) First General Meeting

15 Dec. - Premier's Advisory Council Meeting - Voluntary Planning Presentation Community College Position

1990

9 Jan. - Meeting with Joel Matheson - Implementation of Community College

10 Jan. - Presentation of Tony Halliday, Chairman of the Free Trade Agreement Subsidies Working Group

10 Jan. - Taxation Sector Meeting with the Hon. Kerr, Minister of Finance

24 Jan. - Voluntary Planning Board Meeting

8 Feb. - Literacy Nova Scotia and Voluntary Planning co-host MGM showing of "Stanley and Iris"

23 Feb - LRCC - Waste Management School Awards Program - kick-off

7 March - First Meeting of re-constituted Tourism Sector

12 March - Luncheon with William Cavitt and the Special Committee on Free Trade Adjustment

16 March - Briefing session on the Economic Strategy with Voluntary Planning - Labour representatives

21 March - Voluntary Planning Board Meeting

22 March - Cabinet briefing on the Economic Strategy

6-7 April - Economic Strategy Roundtable - Research Wrap-up

23 April-18 May - Consultations on the Economic Strategy

23 May - Annual Meeting

Voluntary Planning Publications

1989-90

Voluntary Planning Board

Submission to Blenkarn Committee on proposed GST.

Agriculture Sector

Animal Welfare Report

CORE Committee

Economic Strategy Elements Paper

Energy Sector

Energy Update

Environment and Economy

Four Key Steps to Introducing Environmental Sensitivity to Your Organization

School Awards Hazardous Waste Brochure

Sustainable Development in Coastal Waters

Forestry Sector

Report to Forestry Advisory Council on Clear Cutting and Green Belts Along Major Highways and Waterways in Nova Scotia

Survey of Educational Programs

Health Care Sector

Response to the Royal Commission on Health Care Report

Mineral Resources Sector

Industry Wide Survey of Current Concerns

Tourism Sector

Tourism Symposium Report

Voluntary Planning Board, Sectors, Committees and Sub-Committees

Voluntary Planning Board

Executive Committee

Nominating Committee

Agriculture Sector

Animal Welfare Committee

Community Development Sector

Re-Structuring Committee

Construction Sector

Economic Strategy for Nova Scotia (CORE)

Human Resources Issue Group

Trade and Competitiveness Issue Group

Technology Issue Group

New Businesses Issue Group

Government Role Issue Group

The "WINS" Group

Energy Sector

Editing Committee

Environment and Economy Sector

Coastal Waters Committee

Code of Practice Committee

Conference Committee

Economic Incentives for Environmental Management

Fisheries Sector

Forestry Sector

Forestry Education Committee

Special Committee on Free Trade Adjustment

Human Resources Sector

Health Care Sector

Land Resources Coordinating Council (LRCC)

Education Committee

Hazardous Waste Management Committee

Land Use Management Committee

Acid Rain Committee

Occupiers Liability Act Committee

Manufacturing Sector

Mineral Resources Sector

Professional Services Industry Sector)

Research and Development

Society for Academic and Industry Liaison (SAIL)

Taxation Sector and Matters Relating to Government Fiscal Management

Tourism Sector

Planning Committee

Product Committee

Market Committee

Organization Committee

Transportation Sector

Constituent Organizations

Annapolis Valley Affiliated Boards of Trade

Apprenticeship Advisory Board

Aquaculture Association of Nova Scotia

Arson Prevention Council of Nova Scotia

Association of Interior Designers of Nova Scotia

Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia

Atlantic Canada Owner Operators Association

Atlantic Provinces Economic Council (APEC)

Atlantic Provinces Transportation Committee

Atlantic Provinces Trucking Association

Bakery Confectionery and Tobacco Workers Union

Blueberry Producers Association of Nova Scotia

Bowhunters Association of Nova Scotia

Boy Scouts of Canada

Building Owners' and Managers' Association

Canadian Manufacturer's Association

Canadian Paper Workers

Cape Breton Building and Construction Trades Council

Chamber of Mineral Resources

Cheticamp Fishermen's Co-op Society Limited

Chief Fire Officers Association of Nova Scotia

Christmas Tree Council of Nova Scotia

The Clean Nova Scotia Foundation

Construction Association of Nova Scotia (CANS)

Construction Industry Development Council of Nova Scotia (CIDCONS)

Construction Management Bureau Limited

Council of Applied Science and Technology (CAST)

Cumberland Development Authority

Design Construction Institute

East Coast Salmon Fishermens Association

Eastern Fisherman's Federation

Ecology Action Centre

Economic Developers of Nova Scotia (EDANS)

Forest Group Venture Association

Girl Guides of Canada

Ground Search and Rescue Association

Halifax Board of Trade

Halifax Dartmouth Port Commission

Hunting and Fishing Guides of Nova Scotia

International Association of Sheet Metal Workers #409

Innkeeper's Guild of Nova Scotia

Investment Property Owners Association of Nova Scotia

Livestock Feed Board of Canada

Mainland Nova Scotia Building and Construction Trades

Metropolitan Authority

National Association of Women in Construction

Native Council of Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia Association of Architects

Nova Scotia Campground Owners Association

Nova Scotia Consulting Engineers Association

Nova Scotia Council of Labour

Nova Scotia Dragger Fishermen's Association

Nova Scotia Federation of Labour

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture

Nova Scotia Forest Products Association

Nova Scotia Forest Technicians Association

Nova Scotia Forestry Association

Nova Scotia Ground Search and Rescue Association

Nova Scotia Home Builders Association

Nova Scotia Primary Forest Products Marketing Board

Nova Scotia Road Builders Association

Nova Scotia Rural Beautification

Nova Scotia Section - Canadian Institute of Forestry

Nova Scotia Trails Federation

Nova Scotia Wildlife Federation

Nova Scotia Woodlot Owners and Operators Association

Offshore Trade Association of Nova Scotia

Pictou County Research and Development Commission

Recreation Association of Nova Scotia

Seafood Workers

Snowmobilers Association of Nova Scotia

Society for Academic and Industry Liaison (SAIL)

Surveyors Association of Nova Scotia

The Confederacy of Mainland Micmacs

Trade Council

Trappers Association of Nova Scotia

Union of Nova Scotia Indians

Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities

Urban Development Institute, Nova Scotia Division

Vegetable and Potato Producers

Watershed Association Development Enterprise

Women's Institute of Nova Scotia

Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities

Urban Development Institute, Nova Scotia Division

Vegetable and Potato Producers

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Women's Institute of Nova Scotia